## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

CROSSPOINT CHURCH,	)
Plaintiff,	)
V.	) Civil Action No. 23-cv-00146-JAW
A. PENDER MAKIN, in her official capacity as Commissioner of the Maine Department of Education, et al.,	) ) )
Defendants.	)

## **AFFIDAVIT OF MEGAN WELTER**

- I, Megan Welter, being duly sworn, do depose and state as follows:
- I am the Associate Commissioner of Public Education for the Maine Department of
  Education. I have held this position since July 1, 2022. Prior to becoming an Associate
  Commissioner, I was the Department's Director of Policy and Governmental Affairs.
- One of my official duties is to oversee the approval of private schools for the receipt of public funds for tuition purposes.
- 3. From the date that the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Carson v. Makin*, the Department has understood that it may not prevent private schools from receiving approval for the receipt of public funds for tuition purposes solely because they are sectarian.
- 4. On July 28, 2022, Cheverus High School, a sectarian high school in Portland, Maine, applied for approval for the receipt of public funds for tuition purposes.
- 5. The Department processed Cheverus' application in the same manner that it processed applications for any private school seeking approval for tuition purposes for the first time.

- 6. Cheverus' application was approved on September 16, 2022.
- 7. No other sectarian school has applied for approval for the receipt of public funds for tuition purposes.
- 8. Bangor Christian Schools has not applied for approval for the receipt of public funds for tuition purposes.
- 9. To the best of my knowledge, Bangor Christian Schools has not contacted Department personnel regarding the process for applying for approval.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

Executed on April 28, 2023

/s/ Megan Welter Megan Welter